

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 H-01 SS-15
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R 081455Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7090
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
HDQTRS USAF WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2654

MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, CY, US
SUBJECT: NORTHERN CYPRUS AIR SPACE ISSUE

REF: 435 TAW/DO RHEIN MAIN 051800Z APR 77 (NOTAL)

1. IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING FLIGHT SAFETY DANGERS TO USAF
AIR CREWS APPROACHING TURKEY THROUGH NORTHERN CYPRUS AIRSPACE
(REFTEL), EMBASSY URGES THAT THE DEPT AND DOD DEVELOP NEW
GUIDANCE FOR HANDLING THE ERCAN ADVISORY SERVICE PROBLEM. BASED
ON INFO AVAILABLE TO US FROM USAF AIR CONTROLLER AT INCIRLIK,
IT APPEARS THAT USAF PLANES ARE ALMOST ONLY NON-USERS OF THE
ERCAN SERVICE (CYPRIOT CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES TO THE CONTRARY).
INSTRUCTING USAF AIR CREWS TO AVOID CONTACT WITH ERCAN, ALTHOUGH
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APPROPRIATE IN A POLITICAL SENSE, DOES NOT APPEAR TO REDUCE THE
HAZARDS CREATED FOR OUR AIR CREWS BY THE INITIATION OF THE
ERCAN SERVICE BUT RATHER COMPOUND THEM.

2. WHILE NO ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION COMES TO MIND,
WE SUGGEST THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
A. A STRONG EFFORT IN COORDINATION WITH UN AND EC

COUNTRIES TO PERSUADE TURKS AND TURK-CYPRIOTS TO DISCONTINUE THE ERCAN SERVICE. THIS, OF COURSE, WOULD NECESSARILY BE COUPLED WITH REESTABLISHMENT OF CONTROL SERVICE IN THE AREA BY THE NICOSIA (LARNACA) CONTROLLERS.

B. A SIMILAR EFFORT WITH THE UN AND EC TO REOPEN NICOSIA CONTROL (PERHAPS UNDER ICAO SUPERVISION) AND DISCONTINUE BOTH ERCAN AND LARNACA SERVICES.

C. ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE GOG AND GOT TO PERMIT USAF FLIGHTS ALONG R-19 TO RHODES AND AIRWAY DW-19 FROM RHODES TO TURKEY.

D. IF ONE OF THESE OR SOME OTHER APPROACH IS NOT DEvised, AIR SAFETY HAZARDS SUGGEST THAT CONSIDERATION MAY HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO SUSPENDING ENTRY INTO TURKEY VIA NORTHERN MEDITERRANEAN (WHICH HAS PRESENTLY OPEN ROUTES).

3. EMBASSY WILL HOLD OFF MAKING APPROACH OUTLINED IN PARA 3 STATE 77242 PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. IF APPROACH IS MADE, BELIEVE IT PREFERABLE TO MAKE APPROACH TO THE MFA RATHER THAN TAF AIR TRAFFIC SECTION. LATTER CONTINUES TO BE VERY HELPFUL REGARDING OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE AND WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT WISH TO JAR OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH IT. WE BELIEVE MFA WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE ADDRESSEE IN ANY EVENT.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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